



*Institute for Advanced Technology  
The University of Texas at Austin*

# **Static Cavity Expansion Model for Partially Confined Targets**

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*January 1996*

**19961209 001**

*IAT.R 0092*

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**DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 3**

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved  
OMB NO. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)	2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED	
	January 1996	Technical Report	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE		5. FUNDING NUMBERS	
Static Cavity Expansion Model for Partially Confined Targets		Contract # DAAA21-93-C-0101	
6. AUTHOR(S)			
Y. Partom			
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
Institute for Advanced Technology The University of Texas at Austin 4030-2 W. Braker Lane, #200 Austin, TX 78759		IAT.R 0092	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)		10. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
U.S. Army Research Laboratory ATTN: AMSRL-WT-T Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5066			
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES			
The view, opinions and/or findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be considered as an official Department of the Army position, policy, or decision, unless so designated by other documentation.			
12a. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT		12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.		A	
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)			
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14. SUBJECT TERMS		15. NUMBER OF PAGES	
Cavity Expansion Model, long rod penetration		15	
16. PRICE CODE			
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT
Unclassified	Unclassified	Unclassified	UL

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# Static Cavity Expansion Model for Partially Confined Targets

Yehuda Partom

## Abstract

The cavity expansion model (CEM), originally proposed as an indentation theory, has been used extensively to estimate the resistance of targets to long rod penetration. In the classical model the target is infinite and the cavity is opened up from zero radius. In previous work we applied the classical approach to laterally finite targets and we ran into difficulty. The resistance came out as decreasing with cavity radius. To circumvent the difficulty we introduced an averaging scheme with a free parameter to be determined from computer simulations.

In this work we use a different approach, we open up the cavity from a **finite radius**. We first propose the concept that the target penetration resistance is the **limit of stability** of the cavity. We then apply this concept to estimate the resistance of partially confined targets. We do this for both cylindrical and spherical cavities.

Comparing the model solutions to computer simulation results reported in [2] we find good agreement for the spherical CEM, but not for the cylindrical CEM.

## 1.0 Introduction

In [1] we applied the static cavity expansion model (CEM) in cylindrical symmetry to estimate the efficiency of lateral self-confinement in metal and ceramic targets. In [2] we calibrated and validated the results obtained in [1] using computer simulations.

Our approach in [1] and [2] was along the lines of the original CEM [3] namely, evaluating the internal pressure  $P(a)$  needed to open a cavity from zero radius. For a finite outside radius,  $b$ , we found that  $P(a)$  was not constant but decreased with the cavity radius “ $a$ .” We therefore averaged  $P(a)$  over a certain range of “ $a$ ” and defined this average to be the target resistance. We calibrated the averaging range from the results of computer simulations.

In what follows we use a different approach. We first show that the value of  $P(a)$  obtained from the classical CEM ( $b \rightarrow \infty$ ) is actually the **limit of stability** of a finite radius cavity expanded by internal pressure. We then use this insight and evaluate the limit of stability for finite  $b$ . We regard the limit of stability  $P_\ell$  to be the target penetration resistance.

We find that  $P_\ell$  depends on  $b_0/a_0$  (where  $a_0, b_0$  are the initial inside and outside radii). Identifying  $a_0$  with the projectile radius we obtain good agreement with computer simulations for a spherical cavity but only qualitative agreement for a cylindrical cavity.

In Section 2 we explain the concept of the limit of stability. Section 3 provides the analysis for a cylindrical cavity, and Section 4 provides the analysis for a spherical cavity. Chapter 5 shows the model solutions for penetration resistance as a function of the degree of confinement and compares this to computer simulation results.

## 2.0 Limit of Stability

To explain the limit of stability concept we evaluate the elasto-plastic cavity expansion from a finite initial cavity  $a_0$ .

### 2.1. Cylindrical Cavity

The elastic field is:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{\beta Y}{2G} \frac{c^2}{r}, \\ \sigma_r &= -\beta Y \frac{c^2}{r^2}, \\ \sigma_\theta &= \beta Y \frac{c^2}{r^2}, \\ \sigma_r - \sigma_\theta &= -2\beta Y \frac{c^2}{r^2}, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where:

$u$  = radial displacement

$\sigma_r, \sigma_\theta$  = radial and tangential stress components

$\beta = \sqrt{3}/3$

$Y$  = yield stress and flow stress

$G$  = shear modulus

$c$  = elastic-plastic boundary radius

$r$  = radial coordinate

and where at  $r = c$  we have:

$$\sigma_r - \sigma_\theta = -2\beta Y, \quad (2)$$

which follows from the von-Mises yield surface and from [3]:

$$\sigma_z = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_r + \sigma_\theta), \quad (3)$$

where  $\sigma_z$  = axial stress component. At  $r = c$  we have:

$$u(c) = \frac{\beta Y}{2G}c, \quad (4)$$

$$\sigma_r(c) = -\beta Y.$$

From mass conservation (ignoring density changes) we have:

$$c^2 - a^2 = [c - u(c)]^2 - a_0^2, \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore \frac{c^2}{a^2} \approx \frac{G}{\beta Y} \left(1 - \frac{a_0^2}{a^2}\right).$$

The plastic field is:

$$\sigma_r = 2\beta Y \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \ln \frac{r}{c}\right), \quad (6)$$

and the cavity wall pressure is:

$$P(a) = \beta Y \left\{ 1 + \ln \left[ \frac{G}{\beta Y} \left( 1 - \frac{a_0^2}{a^2} \right) \right] \right\}. \quad (7)$$

We see that as  $a_0$  goes to zero,  $P(a)$  increases to a limit value:

$$\lim_{a_0 \rightarrow 0} P(a) = \beta Y \left( 1 + \ln \frac{G}{\beta Y} \right), \quad (8)$$

which is the classical result for cylindrical cavity expansion.

The P(a) curve from (7) is shown in Figure 1 and discussed below together with the spherical cavity results.

## 2.2. Spherical Cavity

The elastic field is:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \frac{Y}{6G} \frac{c^3}{r^2}, \\ \sigma_r &= -\frac{2}{3}Y \cdot \frac{c^3}{r^3}, \\ \sigma_\theta = \sigma_\phi &= \frac{1}{3}Y \cdot \frac{c^3}{r^3}, \\ \sigma_r - \sigma_\theta &= -Y \cdot \frac{c^3}{r^3}, \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

where  $(r, \theta, \varphi)$  are the spherical coordinates.

At  $r = c$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} u(c) &= \frac{Y}{6G}c, \\ \sigma_r(c) &= -\frac{2}{3}Y, \\ (\sigma_r - \sigma_\theta)(c) &= -Y. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

From mass conservation (and no density change) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} c^3 - a^3 &= [c - u(c)]^3 - a_0^3, \\ \therefore \frac{c^3}{a^3} &\cong \frac{2G}{Y} \left( 1 - \frac{a_0^3}{a^3} \right). \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

The plastic field is:

$$\sigma_r = 2Y \left( -\frac{1}{3} + \ln \frac{r}{c} \right), \quad (12)$$

and the cavity wall pressure is:

$$P(a) = \frac{2}{3}Y \left\{ 1 + \ln \left[ \frac{2G}{Y} \left( 1 - \frac{a_0^3}{a^3} \right) \right] \right\}, \quad (13)$$

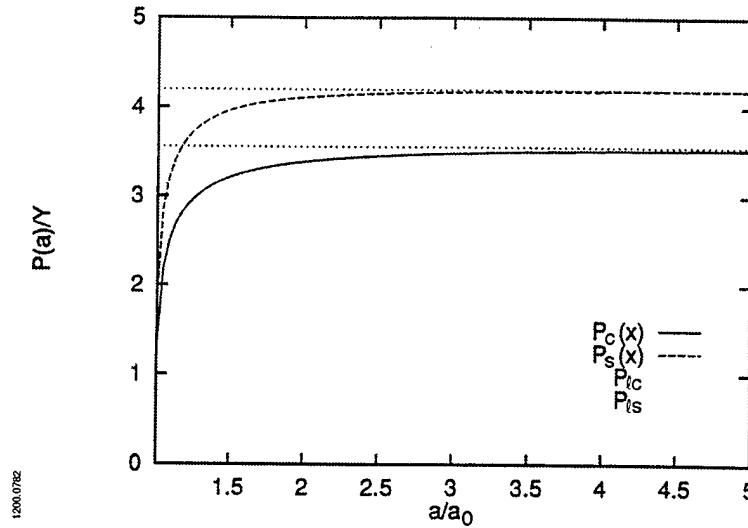
from which we get the limit value:

$$P_\ell = \lim_{(a_0 \rightarrow 0)} P(a) = \frac{2}{3}Y \left( 1 + \ln \frac{2G}{Y} \right). \quad (14)$$

The  $P(a)$  curve from (13) is also shown in Figure 1.

### 2.3. Limit of Stability and Penetration Resistance

The cavity expansion results obtained for  $G/Y = 100$  are shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** Cavity expansion ( $a/a_0$ ), in an infinite domain, as a function of scaled internal pressure ( $P(a)/Y$ ), for cylindrical and spherical symmetry. The horizontal asymptotes are the limits of stability of the cavity.  $P_c$  is given by (7),  $P_s$  by (13),  $P_{lc}$  by (8) and  $P_{ls}$  by (14).  $G/Y = 100$ .

We see that as long as  $P(a/a_0) < P_\ell$ , the cavity is statically stable with a radius “a.” At  $P = P_\ell$  the cavity can grow indefinitely, quasistatically (with zero velocity). Also, because  $a/a_0$  is infinite when a finite cavity is opened from zero radius,  $P_\ell$  is identical to the penetration resistance obtained from the classical CEM [3]. This provides a different way of looking at penetration resistance obtained from CEMs: penetration resistance is the internal pressure on the cavity wall that would make the cavity expand indefinitely, at zero velocity. For  $P > P_\ell$ , the cavity wall is accelerated by the internal pressure.

In [1] and [2] we used the CEM to estimate the penetration resistance of partially confined targets. Using the classical approach (opening a finite cavity from zero radius) we found that the internal pressure needed to open the cavity to a radius “a” was a decreasing function of “a.” To extract a penetration resistance value from  $P(a)$  we averaged it over the range  $0 < a < a_r$ , where  $a_r$  was calibrated from computer simulation results.

By applying the limit of stability approach to cavity expansion in a finite domain we can avoid the arbitrariness of the averaging approach.

### 3.0 Cylindrical Cavity Expansion, Finite $a_0$ and $b_0$

The elastic field is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u &= \frac{\beta Y}{2G} r \left( \frac{c^2}{r^2} + \frac{G}{\lambda + G} \cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right), \\
 \sigma_r &= -\beta Y \left( \frac{c^2}{r^2} - \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right), \\
 \sigma_\theta &= \beta Y \left( \frac{c^2}{r^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right), \\
 \sigma_z &= \beta Y \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + G} \cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2}, \\
 \sigma_r - \sigma_\theta &= -2\beta Y \cdot \frac{c^2}{r^2}, \\
 P &= -\beta Y \cdot \frac{K}{\lambda + G} \cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2},
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

where:

$\lambda$  = Lame's modulus,

$K$  = Bulk modulus.

The elastic moduli ratios in (15) are:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\lambda}{\lambda+G} &= 2v, \\ \frac{G}{\lambda+G} &= 1-2v, \\ \frac{K}{\lambda+G} &= \frac{2}{3}(1+v),\end{aligned}\tag{16}$$

where  $v$  = Poisson's ratio.

and at  $r = c$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned}u(c) &= \frac{\beta Y}{2G}c \left[ 1 + (1-2v)\frac{c^2}{b^2} \right], \\ \sigma_r(c) &= -\beta Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right).\end{aligned}\tag{17}$$

The plastic field solution is:

$$\sigma_r = -\beta Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \ln \frac{c^2}{r^2} \right),\tag{18}$$

so that:

$$P(a) = \beta Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^2}{b^2} + \ln \frac{c^2}{a^2} \right).\tag{19}$$

From mass conservation we have (as in Section 2.1):

$$c^2 - a^2 = [c - u(c)]^2 - a_0^2, \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{c^2}{a^2} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{a_0^2}{a^2} \right) \cdot \frac{c}{u(c)},$$

$$\therefore \frac{c^2}{a^2} = \frac{G}{\beta Y} \cdot \frac{\frac{1-a_0^2/a^2}{1+(1-2v)\cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2}}}{.} \quad (21)$$

Also, at  $r = b$  we have:

$$b = b_0 + u(b), \quad (22)$$

$$u(b) = \frac{c^2}{b^2} \cdot \frac{\beta Y}{G} (1-v),$$

so that:

$$\frac{c}{a} = \frac{\frac{b_0}{a_0} \cdot \frac{a_0}{a} \cdot \frac{c}{b}}{1 - \frac{\beta Y}{G} \cdot (1-v) \cdot \frac{c^2}{b^2}}. \quad (23)$$

Equations (21) and (23) are nonlinear simultaneous equations in  $c/a$  and  $c/b$ . Substituting  $c/a$  from (23) into (21) we obtain a quadratic equation in  $c^2/b^2$  which can be solved analytically for given  $b_0/a_0$  and  $a/a_0$ . Finally, substituting into (19) gives  $P(a)$  for given  $b_0/a_0$  and  $a/a_0$ .

When the elastic-plastic interface reaches the outside boundary we have:

$$c = b,$$

$$P(a) = \beta Y \ln \frac{b^2}{a^2}, \quad (24)$$

$$\frac{b^2}{a^2} = \frac{G}{\beta Y} \cdot \frac{1-a_0^2/a^2}{2(1-v)}.$$

But from (22):

$$\frac{b}{b_0} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\beta Y}{G}(1 - v)} \quad (25)$$

Eliminating  $b$  from the last of (24) and (25) we get:

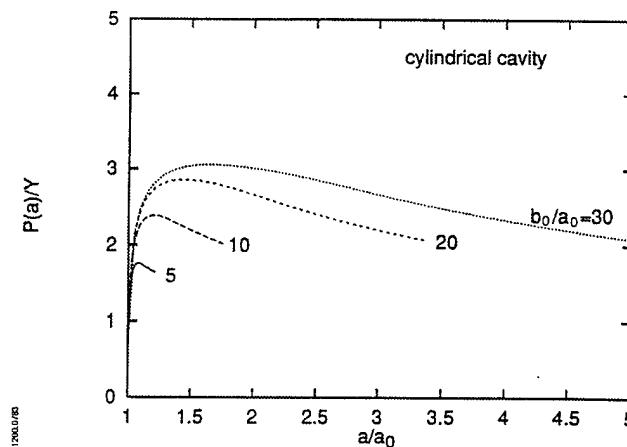
$$\left(\frac{a}{a_0}\right)^2 = 1 + \left(\frac{b_0}{a_0}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{2(1-v) \cdot \frac{\beta Y}{G}}{\left[1 - (1-v) \cdot \frac{\beta Y}{G}\right]^2} \quad \text{for } c = b. \quad (26)$$

For  $a > a_{c=b}$  the second of (24) still holds, and  $b^2/a^2$  is obtained from mass conservation:

$$b^2 - a^2 = b_0^2 - a_0^2, \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{b^2}{a^2} = 1 + \frac{a_0^2}{a^2} \left( \frac{b_0^2}{a_0^2} - 1 \right).$$

Results for  $P(a)/Y$  as a function of  $a/a_0$ , for  $G/Y = 100$ ,  $v = 0.3$ , and for different values of  $b_0/a_0$ , are shown in Figure 2. We see that the curves rise to a peak and then drop. The value of  $P(a)$  at the peak is the limit of stability pressure  $P_\ell$ . We see that  $P_\ell$  increases with  $b_0/a_0$  and that the corresponding  $a/a_0$  value increases. In Chapter 5 we further discuss these results together with the spherical cavity results obtained in Chapter 4.



**Figure 2. Cylindrical cavity expansion ( $a/a_0$ ), in a finite domain, as a function of the scaled internal pressure ( $P(a)/Y$ ), for  $G/Y = 100$  and  $v = 0.3$ . The different curves are for different values of  $b_0/a_0$ .**

#### 4.0 Spherical Cavity Expansion (finite $a_0$ and $b_0$ )

The elastic field is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u &= \frac{Y}{6G}r \left( \frac{c^3}{r^3} + 2 \cdot \frac{1-2v}{1+v} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3} \right), \\
 \sigma_r &= -\frac{2}{3}Y \left( \frac{c^3}{r^3} - \frac{c^3}{b^3} \right), \\
 \sigma_\theta &= \frac{2}{3}Y \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{c^3}{r^3} + \frac{c^3}{b^3} \right), \\
 \sigma_r - \sigma_\theta &= -Y \cdot \frac{c^3}{r^3}, \\
 P &= -\frac{2}{3}Y \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3},
 \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

and at  $r = c$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(c) &= \frac{Y}{6G}c \left( 1 + 2 \cdot \frac{1-2v}{1+v} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3} \right), \\
 \sigma_r(c) &= -\frac{2}{3}Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^3}{b^3} \right).
 \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

The plastic field solution is:

$$\sigma_r = -\frac{2}{3}Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^3}{b^3} + \ln \frac{c^3}{r^3} \right), \tag{30}$$

so that:

$$P(a) = \frac{2}{3}Y \left( 1 - \frac{c^3}{b^3} + \ln \frac{c^3}{a^3} \right). \tag{31}$$

From mass conservation we have:

$$c^3 - a^3 = [c - u(c)]^3 - a_0^3, \quad (32)$$

$$\frac{c^3}{b^3} \approx \frac{1}{3} \left( 1 - \frac{a_0^3}{a^3} \right) \cdot \frac{c}{u(c)},$$

$$\frac{c^3}{a^3} = \frac{2G}{Y} \cdot \frac{(1 - a_0^3/a^3)}{1 + 2 \cdot \frac{1-2v}{1+v} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3}}. \quad (33)$$

Also, at  $r = b$  we have:

$$b = b_0 + u(b), \quad (34)$$

$$u(b) = \frac{Y}{2G} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^2} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v},$$

so that:

$$\frac{c}{a} = \frac{\frac{b_0}{a_0} \cdot \frac{a_0}{a} \cdot \frac{c}{b}}{1 - \frac{Y}{2G} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v} \cdot \frac{c^3}{b^3}}. \quad (35)$$

Equations (33) and (35) are nonlinear simultaneous equations in  $c/a$  and  $c/b$ . Substituting  $c/a$  from (35) into (33) we get a cubic equation in  $c^3/b^3$  which can be solved numerically with a standard bisection routine. Finally, substituting back into (31) gives  $P(a)$  for given  $b_0/a_0$  and  $a/a_0$ .

When the elastic-plastic interface reaches the outside boundary we have:

$$c = b,$$

$$\frac{b^3}{a^3} = \frac{1 - a_0^3/a^3}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{Y}{G} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v}}, \quad (36)$$

$$P(a) = \frac{2}{3} Y \ln \frac{b^3}{a^3}.$$

But from (34):

$$\frac{b}{b_0} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{Y}{2G} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v}}. \quad (37)$$

Eliminating  $b$  from the second of (36) and (37) we get:

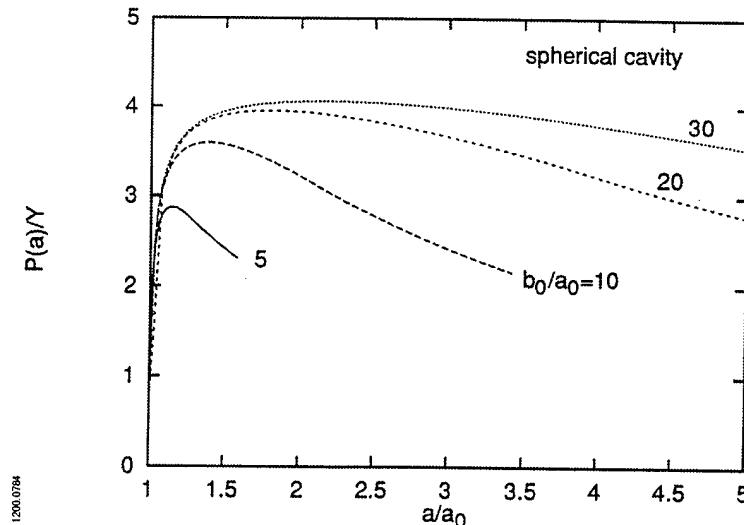
$$\left(\frac{a}{a_0}\right)^3 = 1 + \left(\frac{b_0}{a_0}\right)^3 \cdot \frac{\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{Y}{G} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v}}{\left(1 - \frac{Y}{2G} \cdot \frac{1-v}{1+v}\right)^3} \quad \text{for } c = b. \quad (38)$$

For  $a > a_{c=b}$  the third of (36) still holds, and  $b^3/a^3$  is obtained from mass conservation:

$$b^3 - a^3 = b_0^3 - a_0^3, \quad (39)$$

$$\frac{b^3}{a^3} = 1 + \left(\frac{a_0}{a}\right)^3 \left(\frac{b_0^3}{a_0^3} - 1\right).$$

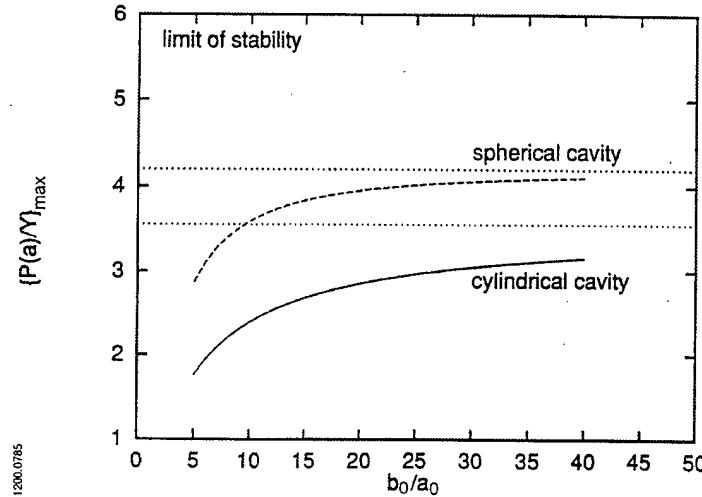
Results for  $P(a)/Y$  as a function of  $a/a_0$ , for  $G/Y = 100$ ,  $v = 0.3$ , and for different values of  $b_0/a_0$ , are shown in Figure 3. The curves are similar in nature to those shown in Figure 2 for the cylindrical cavity.



**Figure 3.** Spherical cavity expansion ( $a/a_0$ ), in a finite domain, as a function of the scaled internal pressure ( $P(a)/Y$ ), for  $G/Y = 100$ ,  $v = 0.3$ . The different curves are for different values of  $b_0/a_0$ .

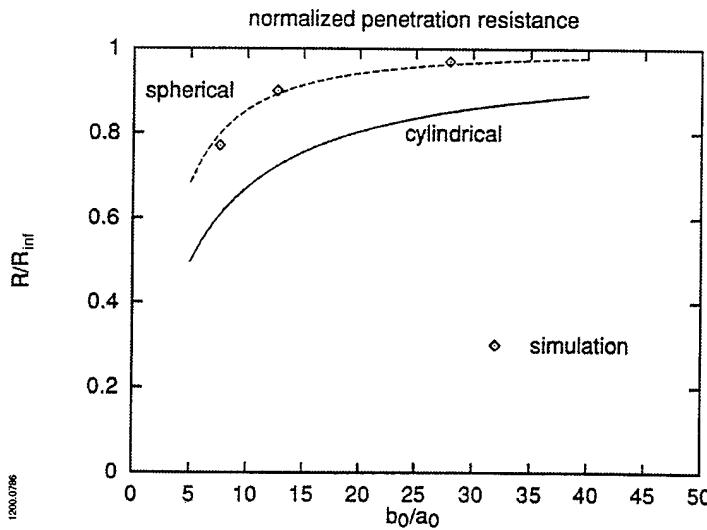
## 5.0 Penetration Resistance Results and Conclusions

As explained in the introduction, the peaks of the curves in Figures 2 and 3 are the limits of stability of the cavity, in terms of the scaled internal pressure ( $P_t/Y$ ). In Figure 4 we show  $P_t/Y$  as a function of  $b_0/a_0$  for cylindrical and spherical cavities.



**Figure 4.** Limit of stability (maxima of  $P(a)/Y$  versus  $a/a_0$  curves) as a function of  $b_0/a_0$  for cylindrical and spherical cavities.  $G/Y = 100$ ,  $v = 0.3$ . Asymptotes are the same as in Figure 1.

We see that the spherical cavity curve approaches its asymptote faster than the cylindrical cavity curve. In Figure 5 we show that the same results only normalized to their asymptotic values ( $P_t$  for  $b_0 \rightarrow \infty$ ). We also identify  $P_t$  as the penetration resistance  $R$  and denote the asymptotic values by  $R_{\text{inf}}$ .



**Figure 5.** Same as in Figure 4 but normalized to values at infinite  $b_0$ ; also,  $P_t$  is identified with penetration resistance  $R$ . Points are from simulations with steel targets in [2] assuming that  $D_t/D_p \equiv b_0/a_0$ .

We also put on Figure 5 the results of numerical simulation with steel targets from [2]. In doing that we assumed that  $D_t/D_p$  in the simulation (where  $D_t$  = target diameter and  $D_p$  = projectile diameter) is identical with  $b_0/a_0$  in the CEM. We see that the simulation points are quite close to the spherical cavity curve. (For steel,  $G/Y = 100$  and  $v = 0.3$  is a good approximation, and the sensitivity to those parameters is low.)

We conclude that:

- The limit of stability approach is an appropriate tool for estimating penetration resistance of partially confined targets.
- The spherical CEM is better suited to model penetration resistance than the cylindrical CEM.

### Acknowledgment

This work was supported by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) under contract DAAA21-93-C-0101.

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